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ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. VTEL:001

Please amend the application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace paragraph 13 with the amended paragraph provided:

[0013] The invention provides a Public Switched Broadband Network (PSBN) and method of operation that permits high-speed, broadband, simultaneous, bi-directional data transfer over the infrastructure of conventional public switched telephone network. In addition, the PSBN provides a high-speed broadband public switched network that utilizes a common data transmission protocol from a broadband service provider, through inter-office facilities, through a serving central office and to the end user, thereby providing a substantially "flat" network and reducing latency problems associated with protocol conversions. Still further, the PSBN provides expanded capacity throughout the network without requiring the implementation of new fiber infrastructure, by utilizing BSL technology disclosed and described in U.S. Patent 5,527,142 5,537,142 and U.S. Patent 6,240,554.